

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

COUNTRY	Yugoslavia	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	Peasant Reaction in the Vojvodina to Agriculture Policy.	DATE DISTR.	8 Sep. 1954.
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	

This is UNEVALUATED

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

While it is realized that some of the information below is overt or tends to repeat existing reports on the subject, it is felt that there is enough value in its recency and in the fact that it was gathered in a relatively narrow geographical area to warrant its dissemination.

1. When, in 1953, the Yugoslav Government permitted peasants to withdraw from collectives, it simultaneously reduced the maximum holdings for individual peasants from 30 hectares to ten hectares. The land surplus thus established was formed into the "Zemljisni Fond" (Land Fund) which was to be subdivided into collectives for landless peasants, especially those brought in from Montenegro to the Vojvodina. However, government efforts to put these new collectives on a working basis have failed, many settlers have returned to Montenegro, and it is estimated that about one million hectares of arable land in the Vojvodina were not cultivated in 1954. At the same time, there are independent farm laborers in the Vojvodina working for peasant land holders for a salary of 400 - 600 dinars a day and their food.
2. Peasants in the Vojvodina feel that with the breakdown of forced collectivization they have scored a victory over the Government. Peasants from the villages of Veprovats, Filipovo, Srpski Miletic and Turija have stated that they are happy to have the ten hectares maximum allowed to each individual but object to governmental directives regarding the sowing of crops. They feel that they can reach the pre-war productive capacity of their land if only the Government will abstain from interference and not tax them too highly.

SECRET - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

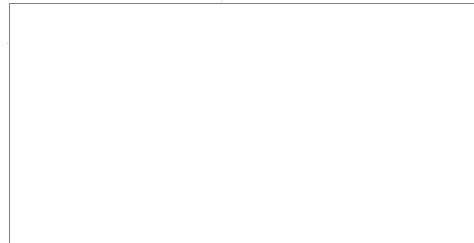
STATE EV	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC		OKR EV	X		
----------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	--	--------	---	--	--

(NOTE: "W" denotes distribution initiated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

SECRET - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

- 2 -

3. The marked increase in the number of law suits between individual peasants concerning land boundaries ( 65,000 in all of Yugoslavia in 1953 as compared with 5,500 in 1950) is explained as not merely caused by numerous withdrawals from collectives but rather as a concomitant of the great number of land sales between individuals. This also reportedly illustrates the fundamentally capitalistic nature of the Yugoslav peasant and his strong belief in the impermanency of the current regime.



SECRET - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY